

WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 7, 2012

The Regular Meeting of the Board of the Washington County Commission was called to order by Chairman Alan D. Gardner at 4:00 p.m. on February 7, 2012, in the Commission Chambers, Washington County Administration Building, St. George, Utah. Those in attendance were Chairman Alan D. Gardner, Commissioner James J. Eardley, Commissioner Dennis Drake, Washington County Administrator Dean J. Cox, Deputy County Attorney Eric Clarke, and Deputy County Clerk Christine Hall.

Commissioner Eardley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA:

The Consent Agenda is a means of expediting routine matters which come before the Commission for approval. The Consent Portion of the agenda is approved by one (1) non-debatable motion. If any Commissioner wishes to remove an item from the Consent Portion of the agenda, then that item becomes the first order of business on the Regular Agenda.

- Consideration of Auditor-Approved Claims for Payment for January 18, 2012, through February 7, 2012
- Consideration of Approval of Regular Commission Meeting Minutes of January 17, 2012
- Consideration of Administrative Adjustments / Personal Property (attached)
- Consideration of Administrative Adjustments / Real Property (attached)
- Consideration of Applications for Settlement or Deferral of Property Taxes: Virginia Lee, S/N G-6-2-26-3133; Vick Enterprises, S/N H-311-B-18, H-281-A-10, H-311-B-3-A-2, H-311-B-3-A-1, and H-311-B-19
- Consideration of Applications for Property Tax Abatements: Gloria Abraham, S/N SG-RRMHE-8-17; Michael Ernst, S/N SG-SUR-1-1C-268; David Greenwood, S/N W-CSP-2-88; Mindi Kury, S/N SG-SUTH-2-2-17; Terrie McIntosh, S/N LV-PGS-2-5; David Mollner, S/N SG-169; Susan Mules, S/N SG-PDES-8-120; Verl and Fay Schemensky, S/N W-RP-1-26-A; and Joseph and Ann Weigler, S/N SG-TSH-2-50
- Consideration of Renewals of Library Transport Contracts with Bret Bowler (Enterprise), Robert Groke (New Harmony), and Sheralyn Madsen (Springdale) for 2012
- Consideration of Request by Washington County Sheriff's Office to Trade In and/or Transfer Vehicles (attached)

Actions of the Washington County Planning Commission Meeting / None

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Eardley to Approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Drake and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Gardner, Eardley, and Drake voting aye.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Chairman Gardner asked Bart Bailey, Undersheriff of Washington County Sheriff's Office, to give a report on the incident that occurred yesterday on I-15 at approximately Mile Marker 17. A LaVerkin City police officer attempted to make a routine traffic stop, but the person in the vehicle fled, resulting in a high-speed chase through Hurricane and onto the Interstate, where the car was eventually stopped via a pit maneuver. Multiple agencies responded to the scene.

The officer on the scene spotted a handgun in the vehicle, along with two children, and the SWAT team was brought in, including hostage negotiators. The perpetrator eventually gave himself up and is now in custody. The children were taken to Child Protective Services.

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH / CAROL HOLLOWELL

Carol Hollowell, Director of the Volunteer Center of Washington County, reported that last month's volunteer, Granetta Breeze, passed away. A County employee at the center unexpectedly lost her husband, both events causing considerable distress. Additionally, the federal government has cut Alzheimer's funding, which is a blow to the Senior Companion Program.

Ms. Hollowell intended to present the Volunteer of the Month award to Bob and Rebecca Bowman, who were unable to be at the meeting today. Mr. and Mrs. Bowman recently received the Drum Major award from President Obama for their leadership and service efforts.

PURCHASE REQUESTS / MARK BLANCH

Clerk-Auditor, Color Copier	\$ 13,142.40
Sheriff's Office, twenty-five (25) ToughBooks	39,635.25

All purchases are budgeted, bonded, or paid for through grant funds.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Drake to Approve the Above Purchase Requests. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eardley and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Gardner, Eardley, and Drake voting aye.

PRESENTATION: UPDATE ON RECYCLING PROGRAM IN WASHINGTON COUNTY; PRESENTATION TO NORTHWEST SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT

Washington County Recycling Coordinator Jenifer Winward gave an overview of the program since its inception. Currently, there are fifty-one (51) sites being managed in the County, along with six (6) sites in Cedar City, as the result of a partnership with Iron County. Cardboard collection is also being introduced at specific sites. For 2011, total material collected since 2008 in the County is two million, eight hundred and eighty-five thousand, one hundred and forty-nine (2,885,149) pounds.

Ms. Winward presented a check in the amount of six hundred seventy-five dollars and forty-eight cents (\$675.48) to Mr. Steve Haluska, representing the Northwestern Special Service District for its recycling efforts. Mr. Haluska said that the money is very welcome for the purchase of equipment used in providing fire prevention services along Highway 18.

PRESENTATION: LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT / BRITTON LUND

Washington County Library Director Britton Lund presented a report to the Commissioners on the state of the Library System in the County, including its history and projections for future growth and development. A copy of that PowerPoint is available from the Office of the Library Director.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. R-2012-1610, A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A POLICY OPPOSING THE INTRODUCTION OF THE MEXICAN GRAY WOLF INTO WASHINGTON COUNTY OR AREAS WHERE IT WOULD LIKELY RANGE INTO WASHINGTON COUNTY

Chairman Gardner said that the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service has released a report suggesting the introduction of the Mexican Gray Wolf with the boundaries to be the I-15 Freeway up to I-70, into Denver, Colorado, and then south. Such a move would be greatly detrimental to Washington County. There are wolves that range into northern Utah from the Yellowstone National Park introduction, but this wolf species is not native to southern Utah or northern Arizona. This resolution presents the County's position with respect to the introduction of this non-native animal, which would prey on domestic animals, native wildlife, and possibly human beings, as well.

Commissioner Drake commented that proposing the introduction of a non-native species is a highly intrusive step for the federal government to take, particularly without receiving input from state and/or local representatives.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Drake to Adopt Resolution No. R-2012-1610, A Resolution To Adopt A Policy Opposing The Introduction Of

The Mexican Gray Wolf Into Washington County Or Areas Where It Would Likely Range Into Washington County. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eardley and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Gardner, Eardley, and Drake voting aye.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. R-2012-1614, A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2012 COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN WASHINGTON COUNTY AND THE UTAH DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Habitat Conservation Plan Administrator Robert Sandberg said that this is an annual renewal. It is an umbrella Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Division of Wildlife Resources which provides funding for the monitoring of the desert tortoise in the Red Cliffs Desert Reserve (Reserve). It also will allow us to help fund, if necessary, systematic clearances of lands that could be developed that are adjacent to the Reserve. This agreement also covers the funding of the Southwestern Willow Flycatcher nesting survey.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Eardley to Adopt Resolution No. R-2012-1614, A Resolution Approving The 2012 Cooperative Agreement Between Washington County And The Utah Division Of Wildlife Resources. Motion seconded by Commissioner Drake and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Gardner, Eardley, and Drake voting aye.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. R-2012-1615, A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ACQUISITIONS OF LAND BY BLM IN THE RED CLIFFS NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA AND FEDERAL FUNDING FOR THOSE ACQUISITIONS

Mr. Sandberg said that this resolution strengthens and supports the application by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to obtain funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to purchase existing in-holdings within the Reserve.

Chairman Gardner asked Mr. Sandberg to give a presentation at a future meeting, explaining the Habitat Conservation Plan's origins and current status.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Drake to Adopt Resolution No. R-2012-1615, A Resolution Supporting The Acquisitions Of Land By BLM In The Red Cliffs National Conservation Area And Federal Funding For Those Acquisitions. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eardley and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Gardner, Eardley, and Drake voting aye.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. R-2012-1616, A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXECUTION OF A FISCAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UTAH DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION AND WASHINGTON COUNTY IN REGARDS TO THE NON-MOTORIZED TRAIL MATCHING FUND PROGRAM

Mr. Sandberg said that this agreement represents an effort to secure funding to help develop and manage Confluence Park, located in the LaVerkin, Toquerville, and Hurricane areas, which is owned by the County. The County received a grant from the Utah State Parks & Recreation Department for the construction of a restroom facility, and this agreement provides for matching funds for that project. Usage of the Confluence Park for hiking, sightseeing, and picnicking activities continues to rise.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Eardley to Adopt Resolution No. R-2012-1616, A Resolution Approving The Execution Of A Fiscal Assistance Agreement Between The Utah Division Of Parks And Recreation And Washington County In Regards To The Non-Motorized Trail Matching Fund Program. Motion seconded by Commissioner Drake and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Gardner, Eardley, and Drake voting aye.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. R-2012-1617, A RESOLUTION APPOINTING/RE-APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE ANGEL SPRINGS SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL BOARD

Kevin Seegmiller has resigned his position on this Board, and, after properly noticing the vacancy and advertising the position, one application was received.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Drake to Adopt Resolution No. R-2012-1617, A Resolution Appointing Cody Fuquay to The Angel Springs Special Service District Administrative Control Board, with a term to expire 12/31/16; and Re-Appointing M.J. Crystal and Dan Dodds to the Angel Springs Special Service District Administrative Control Board, with Terms to Expire 12/31/15. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eardley and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Gardner, Eardley, and Drake voting aye.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

PUBLIC WORKS OR ROAD BUSINESS

Washington County Public Works Director Ron Whitehead asked the Commission to approve the purchase of a Metso Vibrating Screen Box for the Road Department to use in crushing, separating, and screening rock material on the jobsite. The amount requested is eighty-seven thousand dollars (\$87,000), plus the transportation cost to ship the machine from California.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Eardley to Approve the Purchase of a Metso Vibrating Screen Box for the Road Department, for a cost of \$87,000 plus shipping. Motion seconded by Commissioner Drake and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Gardner, Eardley, and Drake voting aye.

Mr. Whitehead added that the Road Department is nearly finished with its project of installing large concrete culverts at the Manganese Crossing over the Santa Clara River just below Gunlock. This project was largely funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), along with some matching funds from the County.

Flood funding from the Natural Conservation Resources Service (NRCS) has finally come through, and the Public Works Department is reviewing its list of projects to begin repairing flood damage from 2010. The money is specifically allocated for projects already on that list; it is not suitable for new applications for funding.

COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING BUSINESS: CONSIDER NOMINATIONS FOR JUSTICE COURT NOMINATION COMMITTEE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Eardley to Table this Item. Motion seconded by Commissioner Drake and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Gardner, Eardley, and Drake voting aye.

Request a Closed Session

None.

There being nothing further to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at p.m.

CHRISTINE S. HALL
DEPUTY CLERK

ALAN D. GARDNER
CHAIRMAN